



## Los Angeles County CalFresh Awareness Month Collaboration May 2011



The California Association of Food Banks (CAFB) was founded in 1995 to promote collaboration in response to emerging social, economic and legislative challenges impacting hungry people throughout California. CAFB's mission is to provide a unified voice among food banks to maximize their ability to build a well nourished California. To accomplish its mission, CAFB focuses on providing support to its membership of 41 food banks, assisting Californians in accessing food assistance and nutrition programs, distributing fresh produce through the Farm to Family program and influencing public policy at the state and federal level.



California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA) is a statewide nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the health and well-being of low-income students by improving their access to nutritious, affordable food. CFPA does this primarily by expanding access to and participation in the federal nutrition programs, particularly CalFresh, which provides \$5 billion in nutrition benefits to 3 million Californians.



The mission of the Chivas USA Community Affairs department is to create socially responsible programs that give back to the greater Los Angeles community in a meaningful way, build relationships with community leaders, groups, and non-profits. Chivas USA strongly believes that its impact in the community can only be matched by the depth and inspiration it finds in the people, groups, and organizations that it is proud to support and that every year, is an opportunity for the team, players and staff to give of their time and build stronger ties in the community.



County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation provides the citizens of Los Angeles County diverse, quality recreational opportunities at 153 facilities including local and community parks, 19 golf courses, 52 hiking and equestrian trails, 19 natural areas and wildlife sanctuaries, 14 lakes, four arboreta and botanic gardens, 29 public swimming pools and the world-famous Hollywood Bowl and John Anson Ford Amphitheatre. A variety of programs include organized sports, healthy cooking classes, after school and other health-oriented efforts.



County of Los Angeles Department of Public Social Services' (DPSS), CalFresh Program is a federal program that promotes and safeguards the health and well-being of low-income households by raising their levels of nutrition and increasing their food purchasing power. Applicants may apply on-line at [www.dpssbenefits.lacounty.gov](http://www.dpssbenefits.lacounty.gov), in person by visiting any DPSS District Office, or contracted partner site, or by calling 1-877-597-4777 to request an application.



As a member of the Daughters of Charity Healthcare System, the Health Benefits Resource Center (HBRC) supports their mission of serving the sick and poor by improving access to health care and providing social services in a holistic approach to promote healthy families. The HBRC is a one-stop information and referral service that links needy families to valuable government-sponsored health benefits and social services, such as Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, Healthy Kids, AIM (Access for Infants and Mothers), and CalFresh (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program). HBRC can assist with health coverage information and the application process for such programs. Services provided by the HBRC are free to the community.



The mission of Hunger Action Los Angeles is to end hunger and promote healthy eating in Los Angeles County through education, advocacy, organizing, public policy, and direct service. For more information, visit us on our website at [www.hungeractionla.org](http://www.hungeractionla.org).



The Los Angeles Regional Foodbank has been working with Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) and food pantries to operate a CalFresh Outreach Program. Trained CalFresh Outreach Workers are present during events such as food distributions to discuss the CalFresh program with clients and assist them with the application process. In the long-term, our goal is to help eligible people access more (and hopefully better) food.



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The teachers, administrators and staff of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) believe in the equal worth and dignity of all students and are committed to educate all students to their maximum potential. Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders.



Formed in 2001, the Network for a Healthy California—LAUSD (Network) is a collaborative effort involving students, teachers, school nurses, administrators, food service professionals, parents, corporate partners and community members. The Network has been able to provide effective learning experiences for thousands of LAUSD students through creativity, planning and solid educational practices. The Network is changing the way students think about food and exercise. In 2009/10, more than 270 schools participated in the Network, integrating nutrition and physical activity into classroom curriculum.



The Network for a Healthy California represents a statewide movement of local, state and national partners collectively working toward improving the health status of low-income Californians through increased fruit and vegetable consumption and daily physical activity. Multiple venues are used to facilitate behavior change in the homes, schools, worksites, and communities of low-income Californians to create environments that support fruit and vegetable consumption and physical activity. The Network for a Healthy California-Los Angeles Region is a part of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. For more information please visit [www.championsforchange.lacounty.gov](http://www.championsforchange.lacounty.gov).



All four Santa Monica markets are Certified Farmers' Markets (CFMs). They are organized and managed by the City of Santa Monica for the mutual benefit of all who enjoy them. An estimated 900,000 shoppers visit the markets every year. Collectively, they provide customers year-round with a selection of fresh, seasonal produce that is pre-eminent among market programs in the state.



Superior Grocers is one of the largest independently-owned chain of grocery stores in Southern California. Our philosophy is to offer the highest quality products at the lowest prices with exceptional customer service. Superior has also been a great source of pride in the communities we serve by supporting local educational, civic and non-profit organizations.



Sustainable Economic Enterprises of Los Angeles (SEE-LA) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit operating certified farmers' markets and nutrition education programs in Los Angeles with the goal of creating better environments for healthy eating and sustainable living in our local communities. All eight of our farmers' markets accept CalFresh/EBT and WIC & Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.



For more than 35 years, UC Cooperative Extension has provided nutrition education to over 65,000 low-income families and seniors in Los Angeles County. UC Cooperative Extension operates federally-funded nutrition education programs that address nutrition and health-related issues in Los Angeles. These programs include the Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program (FSNEP), the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP), and the Network for a Healthy California's Power Play! and Latino Campaigns. Through these programs, low-income families are encouraged to make healthy food choices and to be physically active in an effort to reduce the risk of chronic diseases. To learn more about these programs, visit <http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu>.



The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which is called CalFresh in California, helped put food on the table for some 31 million people per month in FY 2009. It provides low-income households with electronic benefits they can use like cash at most grocery stores. SNAP is the cornerstone of the Federal food assistance programs, and provides crucial support to needy households and to those making the transition from welfare to work. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) administers SNAP at the Federal level through its Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). State agencies administer the program at State and local levels, including determination of eligibility and allotments, and distribution of benefits. Households must meet eligibility requirements and provide information – and verification -- about their household circumstances.



Westside Food Bank (WSFB) has been serving the food assistance programs of social service agencies in western Los Angeles County for the past 30 years. WSFB is active in connecting the clients of its member agencies with CalFresh benefits, and in generally enhancing public access to CalFresh. WSFB has worked with Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), the office of County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, and St. Joseph Center to launch and publicize the DPSS CalFresh Health and Nutrition Mobile Office. WSFB can be reached at [www.westsidefoodbankca.org](http://www.westsidefoodbankca.org).



The Public Health Foundation Enterprises Women, Infant, and Children Program (PHFE-WIC) is a nonprofit agency that has been providing WIC services for over 25 years in high-density areas of need. WIC is a short-term intervention program designed to influence lifetime nutrition and health behaviors in high-risk populations by providing nutrition education and healthy foods during critical stages of development so children achieve optimal nutritional status. PHFE-WIC is operated by a team of health professionals who over the years have transformed the clinics from two mobile teams who served 2,500 participants into 50 store-front WIC Centers, each serving from 3,000 to 10,000 participants in Los Angeles and Orange Counties.